

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE NIACT 0146

S E C R E T JAKARTA 11009

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOF, ID

SUBJECT: GENERAL MOERDANI'S APPREHENSION CONCERNING
MISSION TO WASHINGTON

1. SINCE I WAS OUT OF CITY WHEN CONVERSATION REPORTED
REFTEL TOOK PLACE, I HAVE REVIEWED WITH EMBASSY OFFICER
GENERAL MOERDANI'S CONCERNS.

2. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, IN MY CONVERSATIONS WITH GENERAL
MOERDANI I HAVE STRESSED THAT, FOLLOWING CAMP DAVID
MEETINGS, USG DESIRES INCREASE EFFORTS IN ASSISTING
INDONESIA BUT THAT NO SPECIAL OR DRAMATIC AVENUES OF
ASSISTANCE ARE AVAILABLE BEYOND THOSE ALREADY KNOWN TO
GOI. FROM LATEST CONVERSATIONS, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT
GENERAL MOERDANI FEARS THAT BECAUSE OF KNOWN LIMITATIONS,
WASHINGTON WILL NOT BE ABLE TO GIVE RESPONSE TO INDONESIAN
TEAM WHICH WILL COME EVEN CLOSE TO INDONESIAN EXPECTATIONS.

3. SUBJECT TO DEPARTMENT'S VIEW, I PROPOSE SEE GENERAL
MOERDANI SEPTEMBER 9 OR 10 AND SPEAK ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

A. GIVEN HIS PRESENCE AT CAMP DAVID, WE CONSIDER
IT HIGHLY DESIRABLE THAT HE ACCOMPANY TEAM TO WASHINGTON.

B. USG IS THOROUGHLY SINCERE IN DESIRE TO INCREASE
ITS HELP TO INDONESIA. IT LOOKS UPON VISIT OF MISSION
AS IMPORTANT INITIAL STEP IN FOLLOW UP ON CAMP DAVID
MEETINGS FOR PURPOSE OF PRESENTING INDONESIAN PRIORITIES
AND DISCUSSING INITIALLY POSSIBLE U.S. RESPONSE.

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C. IT WOULD BE TRAGIC IF INDONESIAN TEAM WERE TO

CONCLUDE THAT BECAUSE IMMEDIATE U.S. REPLY IS NOT PRECISE ON MAJOR PORTION OF LIST AT THIS SESSION, U.S. HAD IN EFFECT RESPONDED NEGATIVELY. ASPECTS OF LIST MAY WELL REQUIRE FURTHER STUDY AND FURTHER DISCUSSION OF REQUIREMENTS AND ALTERNATIVES.

D. WE HAVE HAD PROBLEMS IN PAST WITH TEAMS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES COMING TO WASHINGTON AND DEPARTING WITHOUT GIVING TO U.S. SIDE TRUE EXPRESSION OF THEIR REACTIONS AND CONCERNS. WE DO NOT WISH THIS TO HAPPEN THIS TIME. TIME TO WORK OUT SUCH CONCERNS IS WHILE TEAM IN WASHINGTON. GENERAL MOERDANI IS IN UNIQUE POSITION TO CONVEY, INFORMALLY IF NECESSARY, TO CONTACTS IN WASHINGTON TEAM'S IMPRESSIONS AND TO DISCUSS FUTURE STEPS. I WOULD ASSURE HIM THAT HIS OBSERVATIONS WILL BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY.

4. MOERDANI ALSO ASKED EMBASSY OFFICER WHETHER WE HAD AS YET HAD ANY REACTION TO INDONESIAN LIST. I DO NOT BELIEVE WE SHOULD GIVE REACTION UNTIL TEAM REACHES WASHINGTON. IF MOERDANI ASKS ME, I WOULD PROPOSE SAYING LIST WAS SENT IN ADVANCE IN ORDER PROVIDE MAXIMUM TIME FOR U.S. PREPARATION FOR INITIAL RESPONSE. WE HAVE NOT REQUESTED OR ANTICIPATED REACTION IN ADVANCE OF TEAM'S ARRIVAL.

5. IT IS OBVIOUS THAT WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO BE RESPONSIVE IN UPCOMING SESSION IN ANY DEGREE APPROACHING GENERAL MOERDANI'S EXPECTATION. IT IS IMPORTANT, THEREFORE, THAT WE STRESS INTERIM NATURE THIS SESSION AND OUR WILLINGNESS TO STUDY ALL ASPECTS OF PRESENTATION FOR ULTIMATE RESPONSE.

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